

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



May 30, 2012

Bret Lane, Vice-President
Transmission and Distribution
Southern California Gas Company
8330 Century Park Court
ML CP33C
San Diego, CA 92123

GA2012-24

SUBJECT: General Order (GO) 112-E Audit of Southern California Gas Company's East Area Transmission Region

Dear Mr. Lane:

The staff of the Gas Safety and Reliability Branch (GSRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission conducted a GO 112-E audit of SoCalGas' East Area Transmission Region from April 9 – 20. The inspection included a review of your Operation and Maintenance records and field activities in the Victorville, Needles, Blythe and Beaumont Districts for the period of May 2011 – April 2012. GSRB staff also reviewed SoCalGas' operator qualification records and included field observation of 14 randomly selected individuals performing seven covered tasks.

GSRB staff did not observe any non-compliances of GO 112-E, Reference Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 192.

However, on April 18, 2012, during a field inspection of the Blythe compressor station, SoCalGas field employees demonstrated the operation of the gas detectors installed at the three compressor buildings. During the demonstration, GSRB staff found two issues with operation of the gas detection system:

1. An alarm installed in building #1 (third detector from the south end) did not activate its audio and visual alarm system when concentration of gas in air reached 25% of the lower explosive limit (LEL). All other alarms in the building activated at 25% LEL.
2. Although the gas detectors operated correctly, SoCalGas field employees were unable to properly reset the gas detectors in building #3. GSRB staff advised SoCalGas to revise its procedures to recognize a time delay when resetting the gas detection system in building #3.

Please provide a written response within 30 days of receipt of this letter, indicating corrective actions taken by SoCalGas to mitigate and prevent recurrence of these conditions.

If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Palo Jr., at (213) 576-5719.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Robertson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael Robertson, P.E.
Program Manager
Gas Safety & Reliability Branch
Consumer Protection and Safety Division (CPSD)

cc: Jerry Palo Jr., CPSD/GSRB
Joel Tran, CPSD/GSRB